



# Big Sky Libraries

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY [MSL]

## Inside:

A Word From Our State Librarian  
Directory Changes  
Gunderson Wins Award  
Betsy Clark to Retire  
Commission News:  
    Commission Meeting  
    New Commissioners  
Spotlight: Gerry Daumiller  
MSL at MLA Conference  
WLN 1997  
Montana History  
News from Around the State  
GIS in Schools and Libraries  
Technology 2000  
Calendar

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State Librarian's Office:  
406-444-3115

TDD: 406-444-3005

Redi Ref: 800-338-5087

Fax: 406-444-5612

Home Page: <http://msl.mt.gov>

Agency E-Mail: [msl@msl.mt.gov](mailto:msl@msl.mt.gov)  
Karen Strege - State Librarian

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Please send articles and other information to be included in this newsletter to:

Tristen Shinnick, Editor. E-mail: [tshinnic@msl.mt.gov](mailto:tshinnic@msl.mt.gov)

## Legislative Summary

**SB89** - The telecommunications reform bill - Although most of this mammoth piece of legislation deals with phone companies, an important page or two means improved library services to Montana's rural communities. Briefly, SB89 mandates the creation of a "Universal Access Program" which will subsidize high-speed telecommunications costs for community access points.

Because SB89 becomes effective immediately, the Public Service Commission [PSC] has started the process that will establish the rules by which libraries and other public institutions can participate in the program. State Library staff have discussed Montana libraries with PSC staff and have compiled information to help them in the rule making process. MSL staff will actively monitor and participate in this process and when the PSC adopts the rules, MSL will encourage libraries to participate in the program.

**BUDGET** - MSL Budget - The legislators approved a one-time expense for upgrading the Montana Talking Book Library's [TBL] circulation and selection software. Although this money will not be available until July, Sandra Jarvie, the TBL librarian, is researching software and developing a Request for Proposals.

End-of-session budget negotiations resulted in a 10% decrease in all state agency equipment budgets. MSL equipment budget includes materials. We have not yet assessed the impact on MSL collections and services.

**HB453** - The Senate defeated the changes to the obscenity bill. In front of a packed gallery, the Senate vigorously debated the bill. Several senators mentioned possible impacts on libraries.

**HB366** - The House Appropriations Committee tabled HB366 and in the waning days of the session did not reconsider the merits of MLA's electronic access bill.

### New Acquisitions at MSL

**New Directions In Technical Services: Trends and Sources [1993-1995]**, by Peggy Johnson

**The Cybrarian's Manual**, by Pat Ensor

**All-Out Internet Access**, by Miles R. Fidelman

**Introduction to Reference Work**, by William A. Katz

**50 Years of Notable Books**, by American Libraries Association

**Reference Sources for Children's and Young Adult Literature**, by Deborah Rollins and Dona Helmer

# A Word from Our State Librarian:



Karen Strege

Our hardworking legislators adjourned leaving us Helena bureaucrats and Montana citizens to sort through the new laws and modifications passed this session. This newsletter carries a detailed summary of library-related legislation. I would like to thank all of you who contacted a legislator regarding library issues. Your voice, along with others, made a difference.

Though I am planning to rest from legislative work for a few weeks, I believe that the library community must begin to plan its legislative agenda and develop support for its initiatives in 1999. To accomplish this, the Library Commission has established a Law Revision Task Force that will begin to review the status of Montana's library laws in June. The members of the task force will be drawn from Montana's library community and its partners, including county and city associations. Central to the mission of this group is clear and frequent communication with the library community. Furthermore, this task force will work collaboratively with the Montana Library Association to develop legislative agendas. I look forward to participating in this proactive endeavor.

The Commission also established a Networking Task Force that will help guide MSL in its networking and technology work. Again, we will draw members from representative groups in the Montana library community and work for clear and frequent communication with Montana's librarians.

Another activity that will fill the void left by the legislators is the completion of the Long Range Plan. I have comments on the Library Development portion of the plan from the Tamarack, Broad Valleys, Pathfinder, and Sagebrush Federations. Because of weather, the South Central and Golden Plains meetings were canceled, but I received comments from many librarians in those federations. The comments are invaluable to me. Let me know if you want a copy of the plan.

The second draft of the plan will be available through the MSL home page (<http://msl.mt.gov>) after May 28. I would appreciate it if you would look at the revised plan and share your comments with me. I hope that the Commission will approve the plan at their June 18th meeting in Helena.

Finally, I would like to say thank-you to all the Great Falls librarians, trustees, and friends and Bette Ammon who created a great conference. I have been to many library conferences and I cannot remember one that was as fun and as informative as last week's mega-event. I'm exhausted from bowling, meeting new friends, and laughing. I cannot wait for Missoula.

## Directory Changes

**Page 10**, Butte-Silver Bow Public Library, Director

E-Mail: [annd@pop.imine.net](mailto:annd@pop.imine.net)

**Page 12**, Williams K. Kohrs Memorial Library, Deer Lodge, Library Fax: 406-846-2622

**Page 60**, MSU College of Technology, Librarian Natalee Rice is now Natalee Vick, e-mail:

[cgnr@gemini.oxdx.montana.edu](mailto:cgnr@gemini.oxdx.montana.edu)

**Page 65**, Mental Health Center Library, Billings is closing by May 30th. Not filling ILL requests.

**Page 70**, Veterans Administration Medical Center Library, Miles City, Director's e-mail: [gailw@mcn.net](mailto:gailw@mcn.net)

## Gunderson Wins Award

For the fourth year in a row Diane Gunderson and the Montana State Librarian have been awarded the Francis Keppel Award. The award is made each year to qualifying state librarians and state data coordinators for submitting the most prompt, complete, and high quality public library data. It was presented to Diane at the tenth annual Federal-State Cooperative System (FSCS) for Public Library Data Training Workshop. FSCS is a cooperative program of the National Center for Education Statistics and the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science that has been in operation since 1988. Diane was also elected to the FSCS Steering Committee for a one-year term.

## Betsy Clark To Retire

Statewide Library Resources' Betsy Clark will retiring on May 30, 1997. Betsy has been in charge of Circulation for the last three and a half years. Hers was the friendly face behind the counter checking out books and the warm voice on the phone renewing Interlibrary Loans. Last September Betsy received the Governor's Employee of the Year Award as part of our public access services team. We will miss her and we wish her a full and happy retirement.

## News from Around the State

**T**he Miles City Library, the West Yellowstone Public Library, and the Harlowton Public Library now provide public access to the Internet. The Dawson Community College Jane Carey Memorial Library purchased and installed three personal computers with Internet access as well.

The Harlowton Public Library held a Quiz Night in March that raised \$725.

About 65 people attended the annual Valier Public Library dinner held at Frantzie's on April 6th. The evening was capped off with an auction that raised over \$500.

The Choteau Public Library has received an anonymous cash donation that will allow it to remain open at least until June 30, 1998. The announcement was made by board chairman Bob Nauck at a joint meeting of Fairfield, Dutton and Choteau library boards. The groups are seeking ways to keep all three libraries open after June 30, when county funding will discontinue. They are now working on a petition campaign calling for a public vote on county support of the three facilities.

The Bozeman Public Library hosted its eighth annual "Turn Off the TV" week April 24-30 in conjunction with national TV-turnoff week. They had a week of musical activities to help patrons survive a week without TV.

Bozeman Public Library has announced that Lois Dissly, Head of Technical and Automated Services, and Liza McClelland, Head of Reference and Adult Services have been named Acting Co-Directors of the library until a new director is selected. Former director Steve Cottrell has taken a new position in Greeley, Colorado.

Nearly 8,000 Montana students in grades K-3 have selected their favorite book for the **1997 Treasure State Award**. *Three Cheers for Tacky*, by Helen Lester, is a sequel to *Tacky the Penguin*, about a quirky, loud penguin who refuses to conform. This is the seventh year the Missoula Public Library and Missoula County Schools have sponsored this state-wide children's choice award.

## GIS in Schools and Libraries

**A** Geographic Information System, or GIS, is not just a computer mapping system, but a tool to discover relationships in your community. A person using GIS can answer questions like "How has the population changed in this city? Where are the endangered plants & animals in my county? How has the land use changed in the last 10 years?"

For several years, MSL has hosted a program to get GIS into schools and libraries throughout the state. Under a special agreement, Montana libraries can get GIS software, datasets, and training for free, if they have the hardware and the people to support a project. This year, several schools in the Bozeman area were "adopted" by GIS professionals in the community, and presented great projects at the annual GIS Conference in April.

In 1995, the GIS Users' Group voted to create \$10,000 endowments at MSU and UM so that each year a student could be awarded a \$500 scholarship for GIS-related work. The Users' Group just hosted their 9<sup>th</sup> annual conference in Bozeman, and the first endowment will be established at MSU.

Another resource for teachers and librarians is the new K-12 GIS Toolbox on the web. This winter, a group of teachers from Corvallis was awarded a grant to develop the website. There are examples of GIS work being done by Montana school children, as well as "basic overview" types of tools. Check out this great new site at <http://www.montana.com/chs/gis/>.

Finally, the MSL/Natural Resource Information System, through a grant from the Water Quality Bureau, and in cooperation with Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) is now able to offer Nonpoint Source Pollution GIS Education to librarians, teachers and educator/student teams. Five workshops are set up for the summer. Contact: Kris Larson, 406-444-5691.

# Commission News

## Commission Meeting

The MSL Commission met via MetNet on April 16th. They considered a request from a Twin Bridges Library representative for an extension on the time by which the library must have matching funds for an LSCA Title II construction project. Action on the request was postponed until the June Commission meeting.

The draft "Technology 2000: Strategies for Montana Libraries for the 21st Century" plan was presented and accepted. The plan will be widely distributed for comment before being finalized.

The Commission approved a recommendation from the Library Services Advisory Council to expend \$345,020 of FY 1998 LSTA funds to connect 51 public libraries to the Internet and to hire two technology consultants to offer assistance to those libraries. This statewide project will replace the competitive grants process that has occurred in the past few years. The Commission also voted to dissolve

the current Technology and Collection Management committees and replace them with a Networking Task Force and a Law Revision Task Force, each comprising approximately a dozen members from across the state.

The next meeting of the Commission will be June 18th at MSL.

## New Commissioners

Governor Racicot recently appointed Ms. Rosemary Garvey of Butte and Mr. David Johnson of Billings to the MSL Commission. Both will serve until May 22, 2000. We look forward to working with them. Garvey replaces Peggy Guthrie and Johnson replaces Eleanor Gray. All of us at the State Library will miss Peggy and Eleanor and are grateful for all their hard work. We wish them well and hope to see them often.

## Spotlight: Gerry Daumiller



Gerry Daumiller is the senior Geographic Information Systems (GIS) programmer/analyst at MSL. He is responsible for maintaining the Library's GIS software and databases and for maintaining the GIS program's World Wide Web site. Along with other GIS staff, he fills requests from the public for databases and copies of maps, and produces maps and new databases for the GIS program's patrons.

Gerry was instrumental in developing the NSDI Node for Montana on the Internet. Due to his hard work, the GIS program won the "Exemplary Systems in State Government" award in 1996. He is held in very high esteem by both his colleagues and the patrons he has served. He is

great knowledge of GIS and commitment to excellence earned him the "Employee of the Year Award" at MSL in 1991.

Gerry was born and raised in Kalispell, Montana. He and his wife, Marilyn, have a parrot [their only child], Goofy, that frequently visits the library. He has been a medical laboratory technician in the U.S. Air Force, and has worked as a draftsman in the mapping section of the Montana Highway Department. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Geography from the University of Montana and studied cartography for three years at the University of Wisconsin [UW]. As a graduate student at UW he was a teaching assistant in cartography. MSL has been fortunate to have him as an employee since 1988.

## MSL at MLA Conference

The MSL Commission and staff hosted and participated in many activities during the recent MLA conference in Great Falls. The Commission entertained fifty at an open house in Commission Chairperson Mike Schulz's room. This event provided a low-key venue for conference goers to talk with Commission members.

Vicki Terbovich presented two workshops on library technology issues and was awarded "Librarian of the Year." Darlene Staffeldt organized and



Commissioner Dorothy Laird, Commissioner Michael Schulz, Vicki Terbovich, and outgoing Commissioners Eleanor Gray and Peggy Guthrie

presented, along with Kris Schmitz, the Budgeting Pre-conference.

Diane Gunderson created and set-up the

popular MSL booth. Christie Briggs, MSL's Coordinator of Volunteer Services, offered a workshop on the effective use of volunteers in the library. About thirty conference goers offered their opinions about the draft Long Range Plan to Karen Strege during an early Saturday morning workshop.

A description of MSL activities at the conference would not be complete without mentioning MSL participation in the Sheila Cates Benefit-Bowling for Bucks. The Commission formed two outstanding bowling teams, Strege's Strikers and Schulz's Spares, that battled their way into the bottom half of the standings. Sandra Jarvie and Vicki Terbovich bowled on other first-rate teams.



The winning bowling team, the Original Gutter Gang, was from Carroll College and included John Thomas, Sue Jackson, Christian Frazza and Lois Fitzpatrick.

## WLN 1997

The WLN Library Directors Colloquy was a big success. The theme for the day was "A Change for a Paradigm; Start making sense about new ways to work." One of the guest speakers was Bruce Morton, Director, Montana State University Libraries, Bozeman. Bruce gave an excellent presentation entitled "Management to Change and Managing Change."

The biggest news for the Colloquy attendees was that Ameritech Library Services and WLN have agreed to offer a new service that will enhance bibliographic data handling, accessing, and sharing. This partnership will expand the capability of Horizon, Ameritech's client/server-based integrated library system, to meet the emerging needs of consortia, networks, and other library groups. This partnership

## Montana History

will provide WLN with a state-of-the-art network.

The Montana Historical Society [MHS] is sponsoring a program to help libraries promote Montana history. People are encouraged to give Montana Historical Society Press books to their favorite community, school and college libraries. The books are sent directly to the library with a personalized bookplate identifying the purchaser and anyone the donor desires to honor.

Among the books available is the newly published *Autobiography of Red Cloud: War Leader of the Oglalas*. Other recent publications from the MHS include: *Legacy: New Perspectives on the Battle of the Little Bighorn*, *Traveler's Guide to the Great Sioux War*, and *Montana Native Plants and Early Peoples*. Contact: Martha Kohl, 1-800-243-9900.

## TECHNOLOGY 2000

The Statewide Technology Strategic Planning Committee have begun distribution of the draft "Technology 2000: Strategies for Montana Libraries for the 21st Century." The MSL Commission voted to accept the report and it is now open to public comment.

Statewide Technology Committee members began the process in 1995. Since then, more than 100 librarians on 15 work teams collaborated to produce the document which was then edited by Lilly Tuholske, a freelance Missoulian writer/editor. Technology 2000 attempts to define the most critical technological goals for Montana's libraries into the next century.

One theme is the establishment of a wide area network infrastructure to connect our libraries to each other, as well as to interstate, intrastate and Internet worked resources. Concerns include such topics as intellectual freedom in the electronic venue; cooperative statewide licensure of electronic resources; obtaining and maintaining the computer network connections; library automation systems--legacy as well as emerging web-based, public access catalogs; funding such

technologies; and training librarians.

It is hoped that Technology 2000 will be viewed by the Montana library community as a starting point and will continue to be reviewed and revised throughout the next millennium.

Draft copies are available through Interlibrary Loan from the State Library or the state depository libraries. Check WLN or WLN-LaserCat. It is also available on the Internet at: <http://msl.mt.gov/techpl.html>.

A Power-Point Slide Presentation has been constructed which can be presented locally, upon request, by Vicki Terbovich of the State Library or another member of the Technology Committee.

In advance, the Statewide Technology Committee would like to thank Montana's librarians for taking time to read, process and comment on the information found in Technology 2000. Contact: Vicki Terbovich, Statewide Technology Consulting Librarian prior to May 26, 1997: Montana State Library, 1515 East 6th Avenue, Helena, MT 59620-1800. 406-444-5431, or 1-800-338-5087. e-mail: [vterbs@wln.com](mailto:vterbs@wln.com).

### Calendar

June 18	Commission Meeting - Helena
June 26-July 3	ALA Annual Conference - San Francisco
July 4	Independence Day - State Holiday
August 14	Commission Meeting - Deer Lodge
September	Library Card Sign-Up Month
September 1	Labor Day - State Holiday
September 20-26	Banned Books Week